

ALTERED MENTAL STATUS (AMS)

ACTION/TREATMENT

- ABCs/monitor cardiac rhythm.
- IV access, rate titrated to perfusion as needed.
- Obtain blood sample for blood glucose analysis.
- Blood sugar < 60:
 - Oral glucose preparation, administer as needed.
 - 50% Dextrose 50 ml IVP, **may repeat once.***
 - Glucagon 1 mg IM if unable to establish IV.

*Recheck blood glucose levels prior to administering a second dose.

Pediatric:

- Oral glucose preparation 30 ml PO, may repeat.
- 25% Dextrose 2 ml/kg if < 2 years, **repeat as needed.***
- 50% Dextrose 1 ml/kg if ≥ 2 years, **repeat as needed.***
- Glucagon 0.5-1 mg IM if unable to establish IV.

*Recheck blood glucose levels prior to administering a second dose.

To prepare D₂₅, discard 25 ml D₅₀, replace with NS to 50 ml total.

Note:

- Consult base physician if blood sugar reading ≤ 80 for patients with a diabetic history.
- Consider possible causes of AMS: assess patient for signs/symptoms of CVA (see Treatment Guideline M-25).
- Consider IV fluid bolus (250 - 500 ml) for patients with blood sugar reading > 400 if known diabetic history and suspected diabetic ketoacidosis.
- A repeat blood glucose level must be obtained and documented for all patients who refuse further care and transport.

Shaded text indicates BH order

Unshaded text indicates standing order

Approved:

Treatment Guidelines:medical:m-20
Implementation Date: 12-16-02